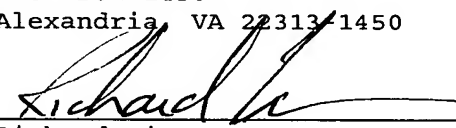


PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Applicants: |) | "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label |
| |) | No. EL 995016396 US |
| ALBERTO MANSERVIGI ET AL. |) | |
| |) | Date of Deposit: |
| U.S. National Phase of |) | January 11, 2006 |
| PCT/EP2003/051004, filed |) | I hereby certify that this |
| December 15, 2003 |) | paper (or fee) is being |
| |) | deposited with the United |
| Serial No. 010/539,171 ✓ |) | States Postal Service |
| |) | "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO |
| Filed: June 15, 2005 |) | ADDRESSEE" service under 37 |
| |) | CFR \$1.10 on the date |
| For: PRODUCT CHANGE METHOD FOR |) | indicated above and is |
| A CIGARETTE MANUFACTURING |) | addressed to: |
| MACHINE |) | Mail Stop PCT |
| |) | Commissioner for Patents |
| Attorney Docket No. 20022/41353 |) | P.O. Box 1450 |
| |) | Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 |
| Group Art Unit: Unassigned |) | |
| |) |  |
| Examiner: Unassigned |) | Richard Zimmermann |

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MISSING
REQUIREMENTS UNDER 37 U.S.C. 371**

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notification of Missing Requirements Under 37 U.S.C. 371 dated December 30, 2005, applicants enclose a copy of a Transmittal of Executed Declaration and a copy of the executed declaration of the inventors, filed on January 4, 2006, with the \$130.00 surcharge fee.

A copy of the notification of missing requirements is submitted with this response.

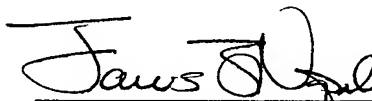
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the amount enclosed or any additional fees which may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A copy of this request is enclosed.

Please refund any overpayment to Marshall, Gerstein & Borun at the address below.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP

By



James J. Napoli
(Registration No. 32,361)
Attorneys for Applicants
6300 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 474-6300

Chicago, Illinois
January 11, 2006

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Applicants: |) | "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label |
| |) | No. EV 687273355 US |
| ALBERTO MANSERVIGI ET AL. |) | |
| |) | Date of Deposit: |
| U.S. National Phase of |) | January 4, 2006 |
| PCT/EP2003/051004, filed |) | I hereby certify that this |
| December 15, 2003 |) | paper (or fee) is being |
| |) | deposited with the United |
| Serial No. 010/539,171 |) | States Postal Service |
| |) | "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO |
| Filed: June 15, 2005 |) | ADDRESSEE" service under 37 |
| |) | CFR \$1.10 on the date |
| For: PRODUCT CHANGE METHOD FOR |) | indicated above and is |
| A CIGARETTE MANUFACTURING |) | addressed to: |
| MACHINE |) | Mail Stop PCT |
| |) | Commissioner for Patents |
| Attorney Docket No. 20022/41353 |) | P.O. Box 1450 |
| |) | Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 |
| Group Art Unit: Unassigned |) | |
| |) | |
| Examiner: Unassigned |) | |
| |) | |
| |) | Juan Quintero |

TRANSMITTAL OF EXECUTED DECLARATION

Mail Stop PCT
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is an executed Declaration for filing in the above-identified application. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$130.00 as the surcharge fee.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the amount enclosed or any additional fees which may be required under 37 CFR 1.16

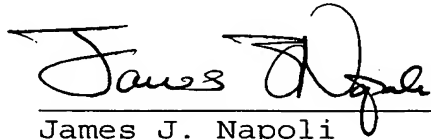
or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A copy of this request is enclosed.

Please refund any overpayment to Marshall, Gerstein & Borun at the address below.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP

By



James J. Napoli
(Registration No. 32,361)
Attorneys for Applicants
6300 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 474-6300

Chicago, Illinois
January 4, 2006



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 United States Patent and Trademark Office
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
 www.uspto.gov

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. | FIRST NAMED APPLICANT | ATTY. DOCKET NO. |
| 10/539,171 | Alberto Manservigi | 20022/41353 |

4743
 MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP
 233 S. WACKER DRIVE, SUITE 6300
 SEARS TOWER
 CHICAGO, IL 60606

RECEIVED

JAN 05 2006

MARSHALL GERSTEIN

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/EP03/51004

I.A. FILING DATE

12/15/2003

PRIORITY DATE

12/16/2002

CONFIRMATION NO. 9280

371 FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000017734499

Date Mailed: 12/30/2005

Docketed: 2/28/06

NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

The following items have been submitted by the applicant or the IB to the United States Patent and Trademark Office as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495).

- Copy of the International Application filed on 06/15/2005
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 06/15/2005
- Copy of IPE Report filed on 06/15/2005
- Copy of Annexes to the IPE filed on 06/15/2005
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 06/15/2005
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 06/15/2005
- Priority Documents filed on 06/15/2005
- Specification filed on 06/15/2005
- Claims filed on 06/15/2005
- Abstracts filed on 06/15/2005
- Drawings filed on 06/15/2005

The applicant needs to satisfy supplemental fees problems indicated below.

The following items **MUST** be furnished within the period set forth below in order to complete the requirements for acceptance under 35 U.S.C. 371:

- Oath or declaration of the inventors, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497(a) and (b), identifying the application by the International application number and international filing date.
- To avoid abandonment, a surcharge (for late submission of filing fee, search fee, examination fee or oath or declaration) as set forth in 37 CFR 1.492(h) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.

SUMMARY OF FEES DUE:

Total additional fees required for this application is \$130 for a Large Entity:

- \$130 Surcharge.

ALL OF THE ITEMS SET FORTH ABOVE MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN TWO (2) MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR BY 32 MONTHS FROM THE PRIORITY DATE FOR THE APPLICATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER. FAILURE TO PROPERLY RESPOND WILL RESULT IN ABANDONMENT.

The time period set above may be extended by filing a petition and fee for extension of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the response.*

TAMALA D HOLLAND

Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 209

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

| U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. | ATTY. DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 10/539,171 | PCT/EP03/51004 | 20022/41353 |